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Denison and Northern Railway Company.

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DENISON AND NORTHERN RAILWAY COMPANY.

APRIL 30, 1896.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union and ordered to be printed.

Mr. MEIKLEJOHN, from the Committee on Indian Affairs, submitted the following

REPORT:

[To accompany H. R. 7138.]

The Committee on Indian Affairs, to whom was referred House bill 7138, submit the following report thereon:

By the act of July 30, 1892, the Denison and Northern Railway Company was authorized to construct and operate railway, telegraph, and telephone lines through the Indian Territory, upon terms and conditions therein named, which were similar to those contained in the acts of Congress granting rights of way, etc., to other railway corporations.

By the eighth section of said act it was required that at least 50 miles of said railway should be built in the Indian Territory within three years from the passage of the act.

It is stated that, owing to the stringency in the money market and general business stagnation, the said company has been unable to comply with the act as to the construction of its road, and now seeks an extension of time for that purpose.

From information presented to the committee it appears that said company has made contracts for the construction of 104 miles of its road; that it has purchased rights of way; that it has arranged for the delivery of steel, ties, and piling for bridges; that it has expended a large sum (about \$200,000) in the development of the resources adjacent to the railway and the railway itself, and has otherwise acted in good faith.

The provisions of the bill now under consideration are similar to those contained in other measures passed at the present session of Congress granting extension of time to other railways within the Indian Territory.

Amend the bill by striking out, in line 8, section 1, "three years," and inserting "two years from the approval of this act."

Your committee therefore report the bill as amended favorably and recommend its passage.